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cont

the present preferred embodiment of the present invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference numerals refer to like elements throughout!--

Page 9, line 20, after "computer" insert --,--; and delete "as being";
line 21, after "product" insert --,--.

Page 23, line 5, change "25" to --28--.

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please AMEND the claims as follows:

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1. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer[-related product user] implemented management [and service] system, which manages registration [a user] of [software and hardware as a] computer-related products, [and provides the user with an appropriate service,] comprising:

6 a user information general management means, [provided on a system manager
7 side, for] generally managing user registration information and using status information
transmitted from a user of the computer-related product[]; and

8 a user registration/reference means [, provided on a] that interfaces with a user
9 [side] of the computer-related [product, for] products notifying said user information general
10 management means of the user registration information and the using status information
11 at a request of the user who [receives] uses a [service according] computer-related product
12 related to the user registration information and the using status information.

1 2. (ONCE AMENDED) The system according to claim [2] 1, wherein
2 said user registration/reference means requests at a request from the user said user
3 information general management means to provide new information about the
4 computer-related product from a vendor[side] of the computer-related product.

1 3. (ONCE AMENDED) The system according to claim [2] 1, wherein
2 [said] the computer-related product is a software product, and said user
3 registration/reference means is [commonly provided for, and as part of,] common to each
4 of a plurality of software products; [and]

5 when any [software product] of the plurality of [the] software products is installed by
6 a user, the user registration/reference means [as part of the any software product are] is
7 also installed; and

8 [a37](#)
9 [cm4](#)
[thereafter] after installation, said user registration/reference means issues a
10 notification about the user registration information and using status information for the
11 plurality of software products which are [included in the software products] installed, and
 [realizes] submits a request for new information about the software product.

1 4. (ONCE AMENDED) The system according to claim [2] 1, wherein
2 said user registration information comprises:

3 personal information about each user [containing]
4 including an identification number of each user; and

5 registration information containing a type of information
6 requested by the user about a computer related product; and

7 said user information general management means extracts the new information
8 depending on information extraction condition containing a requested information type in
9 the registration information at a request for new information about a computer-related
10 product from said user registration/reference means, and transmits the new information to
11 said user registration/reference means.

1 5. (ONCE AMENDED) The system according to claim [2] 1, wherein
2 [said] the computer-related product is a software product and [said] the using status
3 information contains the number of times [of starting up of] the software product was

4 started; and

5 said user information general management means transmits new information about
6 the software product to said user registration/reference means depending on [notified
7 contents about] the number of times [of starting up of] the software product was started.

1 6. (ONCE AMENDED) The system according to claim [2] 1, wherein
2 [said] the computer-related product is a software product and [said] the using status
3 information contains the number of times [of starting up of] the software product was
4 started; and

5 com
6 said user registration/reference means requests said user information general
7 management means to provide new information about the software product when the
8 number of times [of starting up of] the software product was started has reached a
predetermined value [predetermined for a software product].

1 7. (ONCE AMENDED) The system according to claim [2] 1, further comprising [on
2 a vendor side of said computer-related product]:

3 a vendor registration/reference means for obtaining the user registration information
4 and the using status information [provided for] from said user information general
5 management means, and notifying said user information general management means of
6 new information about the computer-related product.

1 8. (ONCE AMENDED) The system according to claim 7, wherein
2 [said] the user registration information contains a type of information, requested by
3 a user, about a computer-related product;

4 said vendor registration/reference means specifies a type of new information when
5 [the] new information about the computer-related product is [notified of] available; and
6 said user information general management means compares the type of information

7 requested by the user with the type specified by the vendor registration/reference means,
8 and when both types coincide, transmits the new information to said user
9 registration/reference means at a request from said user registration/reference means
10 when the requested information is available.

1 9. (ONCE AMENDED) The system according to claim 8, wherein
2 one type of said information refers to information about a linking operation with a
3 computer-related product provided by another vendor.

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comt 10. (ONCE AMENDED) A management apparatus which manages user
2 information about a computer-related product [provided] used by a user terminal connected
3 through a network, comprising:

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B7 a user information general management means for managing using status
information provided by the user terminal about a product [owned] used by a user;
 a product information management means for managing product information
provided by a vendor of the computer-related product; and
 a product information notification means for referring to a product [owned] used by
each user managed by said user information general management means [at a product
information reference request from the user terminal,] and for providing product information
managed by said product information management means about a product [owned] used
by a user.

1 11. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium [used to direct]
2 encoded with software to cause a computer to perform the [functions] actions of:
3 managing using status information provided by [the] a user terminal about a product
4 [owned] used by a user;
5 managing product information provided by [the] a computer-related product vendor;

6 and

7 referring to the using status information [a product owned by each user managed
8 by said using status information managing function at a product information reference
9 request from the user terminal,] and providing product information [managed by said
10 product information managing function] about [a] the product [owned] used by a user at a
product information request from the user terminal.

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12. (ONCE AMENDED) A user terminal apparatus[, provided at a user side of a computer-related product, for receiving an appropriate service from a vendor,] comprising:

4 a user information notification means for notifying an external unit of user registration information and using status information about the computer-related product;
5 and

6 a product information reference means for requesting an external unit for new
7 information about the computer-related product from a computer-related product vendor.

13. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium [used to direct]
2 encoded with software for causing a computer to perform the [functions] actions of:

3 notifying an external unit of user registration information and using status information about [the] a computer-related product used by a user; and

5 requesting an external unit for new information about the computer-related product
6 from a vendor of the computer related product [vendor].

14. (ONCE AMENDED) A vendor terminal apparatus[, provided at a vendor side of a computer-related product, for providing an appropriate service for a user,] comprising:

3 a user information reference means for obtaining, from an external unit, user registration information and using status information transmitted from a user of [the] a computer-related product; and

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a product information notification means for notifying an external unit of new information about the computer-related product.

15. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium [used to direct] encoded with software to cause a computer to perform the [functions] actions of:

- 3 obtaining, from an external unit, user registration information and using status
4 information transmitted from a user of [the] a computer-related product; and
5 notifying an external unit of new information about the computer-related product.

Please ADD the following NEW claims:

--16. (NEW) A computer implemented management system, which manages registration of computer-related products, comprising:

a user information general management module generally managing user registration information and using status information transmitted from a user of the computer-related product; and

a user registration/reference module that interfaces with a user of the computer-related products notifying said user information general management module of the user registration information and the using status information at a request of the user who uses a computer-related product related to the user registration information and the using status information.

1 17. (NEW) The system according to claim 16, wherein
2 the computer-related product is a software product, and said user
3 registration/reference module is common to each of a plurality of software products;
4 when any of the plurality of software products is installed by a user, the user
5 registration/reference module is also installed; and

6 after installation, said user registration/reference means issues a notification about
7 the user registration information and using status information for the plurality of software
8 products which are installed, and submits a request for new information about the software
92 product.

1 18. (NEW) A user registration center managing and distributing information
2 provided by both a user and a vendor comprising:

3 a receiving module receiving a product information from the vendor;

4 a user information module receiving a user information including using status from
5 the user;

6 a database storing the product information and the user information; and

7 a distributing module distributing, from the database, user information to the vendor
and product information to the user depending on the user information data.

1 19. (NEW) A method of managing and distributing information provided by both
2 a user and a vendor comprising:

3 receiving product information from the vendor;

4 receiving user information from the user;

5 storing the product information and user information in a database;

6 managing the product information and the user information in the database; and

7 distributing the product information to the user upon a request from the user.

1 20. (NEW) The product information distributed to the user as claimed in claims
2 18 and 19, wherein said product information distributed to the user includes a plurality of
3 product information correlating to products used by the user as indicated by the user
4 information.--